



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Intermountain Region

Salinas Pueblo Missions
National Monument
P.O. Box 517
Mountainair, NM 87026
Contact: Murt Sullivan
505-847-2290
murt_sullivan@nps.gov

Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument News Release

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Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument Announces Lecture

MOUNTAINAIR, NM – Dr. Michael Bletzer, will present *“Nothing Is Secure”: Apache-Spanish warfare and the demise of the Tompiro and Piro Provinces, 1650-1680*. Dr. Bletzer will provide a glimpse of cultural affairs in Spanish Colonial New Mexico, and how Apache-Spanish warfare affected both the Tompiro/Salinas and Piro provinces in the thirty years prior to the great Pueblo Revolt of 1680.

Based on his research of the Piro pueblos, Dr. Bletzer will discuss Spanish slave raids against Plains and Gila Apaches, Apache retaliatory raids on Spanish estancias and wagon trains, Spanish counter-raids with conscripted Pueblo warriors, Apache attacks on pueblo missions like Las Humanas and Senecú, the evacuation of Abó to the Piro area, and the ultimate fate of the Tompiro evacuees and their Piro hosts in the wake of the Pueblo Revolt. Though the story is still incomplete and at times incoherent, enough information is now emerging to present a general outline of the chaotic period, peppered with dramatic episodes.

Dr. Bletzer, who has been conducting research in the Piro area since 1999, is an Archaeologist with Four Corners Research, and a Research Associate with Jornada Research Institute (<http://www.jornadaresearchinstitute.com/>).

This free interpretive presentation will be held at 7:00p.m. on Tuesday April 1st, at the Mountain Arts on Broadway building, 122 Broadway, in Mountainair, NM. The programing has been made possible through a partnership with the Torrance County Archaeological Society, Manzano Mountain Arts Council, and Western National Parks Association.

Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument protects the sites of ancient puebloan settlements and structures, including associated 17th century Spanish Colonial missions at Gran Quivira, Quarai, and Abó. Established in 1909 as a unit of the National Park Service, the Monument serves as an example of the archeological preservation movement in the United States, and provides public interpretation of our nation’s rich and diverse cultural heritage.

The Monument’s four visitor centers are open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. except for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s Day. Directions and additional information are available on the Monument’s website. For more information, please visit www.nps.gov/sapu, or call (505) 847-2585.

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